

NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

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For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that, on February 19, 2004, **TERRI M. CUSTER**, of Belleville, Illinois, was sentenced to a term of imprisonment of twenty-one [21] months for the federal offense of **MAIL FRAUD IN A SCHEME TO DEFRAUD SCB COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY, INC.** On release from prison the defendant will serve a term of three [3] years supervised release.

The conviction is the result of an Indictment that charged that **TERRI M. CUSTER**, while employed as a full-time sales representative/account manager of SCB Computer Technology, Inc., took checks payable to SCB Computer Technology, Inc., and unlawfully endorsed those checks and deposited the proceeds from the checks into unauthorized accounts. The Indictment further charged that **TERRI M. CUSTER** falsely represented to companies where she was placing employees that a different company was a subsidiary of SCB Computer Technology, and that the placed employees would be placed through the subsidiary. **TERRI M. CUSTER** directed that the payment for the placed employees be sent to her designated address instead of SCB Computer Technology. **TERRI M. CUSTER** ultimately admitted to placing individuals at Southwestern Bell Corporation and concealing the fact that during that time she was prohibited by court order from marketing services to Southwestern Bell Corporation. **TERRI M. CUSTER**, as part of her sentence, was ordered to pay restitution totaling \$132,141.86. As part of the plea, the Government indicated that it would be seeking full restitution to SCB Computer Technology, in the amount of \$152,417.61.

The successful prosecution follows an investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of the case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.